

House Resolution 42

By: Representative Beasley-Teague of the 65th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Bettye Davis; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Bettye Davis served her community her entire professional life, first as a social
3 worker and then in different capacities as an elected official; and

4 WHEREAS, she broke down racial barriers, becoming the first black Alaskan elected to the
5 state House of Representatives, serving from 1990–1996, and Alaska's first black state
6 senator from 2000–2012; and

7 WHEREAS, this trailblazer leaves a legacy of steadfast dedication and determination to help
8 children and improve Alaska's public education system, as well as advocate for equal rights
9 for women and minorities, key issues in legislation she crafted; and

10 WHEREAS, she gave inspiration to many through her high ideals, morals, and deep concern
11 for her fellow citizens, and the devotion, patience, and understanding she demonstrated to
12 her family and friends were admired by others; and

13 WHEREAS, she was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation
14 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness, and by the example she made of her life,
15 she made this world a better place in which to live; and

16 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous woman, Bettye Davis will long be remembered
17 for her love of family and friendship and will be missed by all who had the great fortune of
18 knowing her.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
20 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Bettye Davis and express
21 their deepest and most sincere regret at her passing.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
23 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
24 family of Bettye Davis.